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Message Text

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ACTION IO-03

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TO SECSTATE WASHDC IMMEDIATE 8521
INFO AMEMBASSY BONN
AMEMBASSY BRUSSELS
AMEMBASSY CANBERRA
AMEMBASSY THE HAGUE
AMEMBASSY LONDON
AMEMBASSY OTTAWA
AMEMBASSY SAN JOSE
AMEMBASSY SEOUL IMMEDIATE
AMEMBASSY TOKYO
AMEMBASSY WELLINGTON

C O N F I D E N T I A L USUN 3124

LIMDIS

E.O. 11652: GDS
TAGS: PFOR, UNGA, KS, KN
SUBJECT: KOREA AT 31ST UNGA: CORE GROUP MEETING AUGUST 5

REF: (A) STATE 193475 (NOTAL); (B) USUN 3093

1. KOREA CORE GROUP MET AT WORKING LEVEL UNDER ROK CHAIRMANSHIP AT BELGIUM'S MISSION AFTERNOON OF AUGUST 5. ALL MEMBERS REPRESENTED. CORE GROUP WILL MEET AGAIN AUGUST 6 TO CONSIDER QUESTIONS OF PRIORITY AND DEFERMENT. DURING AUGUST 5 MEETING, CORE GROUP CONSIDERED AMENDMENTS TO DRAFT CONTINGENCY RESOLUTION AND EXPLANATORY MEMORANDUM (REF (B)) AS PROPOSED IN REF (A). ADDITIONALLY, ROK PROPOSED AMENDMENT AT CLOSE OF THIRD PREAMBULAR PARAGRAPH. CORE GROUP ALSO AGREED TO SUBSTITUTE
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COMMAS FOR PARENTHESES IN SAME PARAGRAPH. AIM OF GROUP THROUGHOUT

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WAS TO DEVELOP TEXT MOST LIKELY TO ATTRACT VOTES WITHOUT CHANGES IN SUBSTANCE. CORE GROUP AFTER LENGTHY DISCUSSION AGREED, AD REFERENDUM, ON FOLLOWING TEXTS:

A. EXPLANATORY MEMORANDUM
1. THE UNITED NATIONS GENERAL ASSEMBLY HAS ENDEAVORED FOR OVER A QUARTER OF CENTURY TO PROMOTE THE ESTABLISHMENT OF A UNIFIED, INDEPENDENT AND DEMOCRATIC GOVERNMENT IN KOREA IN ACCORDANCE WITH THE PURPOSE AND PRINCIPLES OF THE CHARTER OF THE UNITED NATIONS. NONETHELESS, KOREA REMAINS DIVIDED AND TENSIONS CONTINUE. THE RESOLUTION OF THE KOREAN QUESTION ESSENTIALLY DEPENDS UPON CONCILIATION AND AGREEMENT BETWEEN THE SOUTH AND THE NORTH OF KOREA AND UPON CONTINUED EFFORTS FOR THE MAINTENANCE OF PEACE AND SECURITY IN THE AREA.

2. THE GENERAL ASSEMBLY IN ITS CONSENSUS STATEMENT ADOPTED IN 1973 EXPRESSED ITS SATISFACTION OVER THE JOINT COMMUNIQUE OF 4 JULY 1972 BETWEEN THE SOUTH AND THE NORTH OF KOREA AND URGED THEM TO CONTINUE THEIR DIALOGUE AND TO WIDEN MANY-SIDED EXCHANGES AND COOPERATION IN THE SPIRIT OF THE SAID COMMUNIQUE. THE SUBSEQUENT SESSIONS OF THE GENERAL ASSEMBLY IN 1974 AND 1975 FURTHER URGED THAT THE QUESTIONS AFFECTING PEACE AND SECURITY IN KOREA AND THE REUNIFICATION OF KOREA BE SETTLED BY THE SOUTH-NORTH DIALOGUE AND BY NEGOTIATIONS AMONG THE PARTIES DIRECTLY CONCERNED.

3. THE SOUTH-NORTH DIALOGUE, HOWEVER, REMAINS SUSPENDED. THERE HAS BEEN NO PROGRESS IN EFFORTS FOR NEGOTIATIONS ON NEW ARRANGEMENTS AMONG THE PARTIES DIRECTLY CONCERNED TO PERMIT ADAPTATION OR REPLACEMENT OF THE ARMISTICE AGREEMENT THUS ENABLING DISSOLUTION OF THE U.N. COMMAND, REDUCTION OF TENSIONS AND ESTABLISHMENT OF LASTING PEACE IN KOREA.

4. ON 22 JULY 1976, THE UNITED STATES MADE A CONCRETE PROPOSAL TO MEET WITH THE PARTIES DIRECTLY CONCERNED TO SEEK AN AGREED NEW LEGAL STRUCTURE FOR THE ARMISTICE DURING THE FORTHCOMING SESSION OF THE UNITED NATIONS GENERAL ASSEMBLY AT NEW YORK OR ELSEWHERE. IN THIS PROPOSAL, IT WAS NOTED THAT SUCH A CONFERENCE COULD ALSO REPLACE THE ARMISTICE WITH CONFIDENTIAL

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MORE PERMANENT ARRANGEMENTS IN ANY FORM ACCEPTABLE TO ALL PARTIES WHICH COULD EASE TENSIONS THROUGHOUT ASIA. THIS PROPOSAL, WHICH ALSO INCLUDED AN EXPRESSED READINESS TO BEGIN IMMEDIATE DISCUSSIONS ON ISSUES OF PROCEDURE AND VENUE, REGRETTABLY HAS NOT MET WITH A POSITIVE RESPONSE.

5. UNDER THESE CIRCUMSTANCES, WE BELIEVE THE GENERAL ASSEMBLY SHOULD ENCOURAGE ONCE AGAIN THE CONTINUATION OF DIALOGUE.

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THE ASSEMBLY SHOULD URGE ALL CONCERNED TO DO EVERY-
THING POSSIBLE TO FACILITATE THE RESUMPTION OF TALKS AND
THE NEGOTIATION OF DURABLE ARRANGEMENTS FOR THE MAINTENANCE
OF PEACE IN THE KOREAN PENINSULA AND THE ACHIEVEMENT OF
REUNIFICATION.

6. FOR THE FOREGOING REASONS, THE SIGNATORIES OF THIS LETTER
REQUEST INCLUSION IN THE AGENDA OF THE 31ST SESSION OF THE
GENERAL ASSEMBLY OF AN ITEM ENTITLED "NEED FOR CONSTRUCTIVE
DIALOGUE AND NEGOTIATION TOWARDS A PEACEFUL SETTLEMENT OF
THE KOREAN PROBLEM AND THE REUNIFICATION OF KOREA".

7. IN ACCORDANCE WITH RULE 20 OF THE RULES OF PROCEDURE OF
THE GENERAL ASSEMBLY, A DRAFT RESOLUTION IS ATTACHED.
(AUGUST 5, 1976)

B. DRAFT RESOLUTION
THE GENERAL ASSEMBLY,
PROCLAIMING ONCE MORE THE GOAL OF PEACEFUL REUNIFICATION
OF KOREA ON THE BASIS OF THE FREELY EXPRESSED WILL OF THE
KOREAN PEOPLE,
REITERATING ITS URGENT DESIRE THAT PROGRESS BE MADE
TOWARDS THAT GOAL BY DIALOGUE BETWEEN THE SOUTH AND THE NORTH
OF KOREA AS ENVISAGED IN THE JOINT COMMUNIQUE ISSUED BY THEM
ON 4 JULY 1972 AND IN ACCORDANCE WITH ITS OWN CONSENSUS
STATEMENT OF 28 NOVEMBER 1973,
CONSIDERING THAT THE DISSOLUTION OF THE U.N. COMMAND
ACCOMPANIED BY ARRANGEMENTS FOR THE ADAPTATION OR REPLACE-
MENT OF THE ARMISTICE AGREEMENT OF 27 JULY 1953, WHICH HAS
FOR 23 YEARS BEEN AN ESSENTIAL FACTOR IN THE MAINTENANCE OF
PEACE AND STABILITY IN THE KOREAN PENINSULA, COULD
FACILITATE RECONCILIATION BETWEEN THE SOUTH AND NORTH OF
KOREA,
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BELIEVING THAT AGREEMENT TO THAT END COULD BEST BE
ACHIEVED BY DIRECT NEGOTIATIONS AMONG THE SOUTH AND
THE NORTH OF KOREA AND THE OTHER PARTIES DIRECTLY CONCERNED,
1. DECLARES THAT, IN THE INTEREST OF THE KOREAN
PEOPLE, THE HIGHEST PRIORITY SHOULD BE GIVEN TO THE
ESTABLISHMENT OF CONDITIONS WHICH WILL LEAD TO NATIONAL
RECONCILIATION AND A LASTING PEACE IN KOREA IN ORDER TO
ACHIEVE ITS REUNIFICATION;
2. CALLS UPON THE SOUTH AND THE NORTH OF KOREA TO
RESUME PROMPTLY THEIR DIALOGUE IN ORDER TO ACHIEVE BY
NEGOTIATION THE SETTLEMENT OF THEIR OUTSTANDING PROBLEMS;
3. URGES THE SOUTH AND THE NORTH OF KOREA AND THE OTHER
PARTIES DIRECTLY CONCERNED TO ENTER INTO EARLY NEGOTIATIONS
IN ORDER TO AGREE ON A NEW LEGAL STRUCTURE WHICH WILL ENABLE
THE U.N. COMMAND TO BE DISSOLVED AS SOON AS POSSIBLE EITHER

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BY ADAPTATION OF THE ARMISTICE AGREEMENT OR ITS REPLACE-
MENT BY MORE PERMANENT ARRANGEMENTS;
4. CALLS UPON ALL CONCERNED TO EXERCISE THE UTMOST
RESTRAINT SO AS TO CREATE AN ATMOSPHERE CONDUCIVE TO PEACE
AND DIALOGUE.
(AUGUST 5, 1976)
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